State of Hawaii DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES Division of Aquatic Resources Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

August 25, 2006

Board of Land and Natural Resources Honolulu. Hawaii

REOUEST FOR APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THREATENED AND ENDANGERED MARINE SPECIES

Submitted herewith for your consideration is a request to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), for the conservation of threatened and endangered marine species pursuant to Section 6(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973. The cooperative agreement will allow for NMFS to provide financial assistance to the Department for the development of threatened and endangered species conservation programs and stipulate a cooperative approach between NMFS and the Department in the conservation of threatened and endangered marine species. The species covered in this agreement will include Hawaiian monk seals, humpback whales, and hawksbill and green sea turtles.

RECOMMENDATION:

"That the Board authorizes the Chairperson to enter into a cooperative agreement with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, for the conservation of threatened and endangered marine species pursuant to Section 6(c)(1) of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, subject to necessary approvals."

Respectfully submitted,

DAN POLHEMUS

Administrator

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

PETER T. YÕU

Chairperson